

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

SCEM-02 INT-08 SCI-06 /214 R

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EUR/NE:WABUELL,JR.

EB/FSE:FMAU (INFO)

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R 132243Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 224188

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, MT, US

SUBJ: PROSPECTIVE ESSO PULLOUT FROM MALTA

REF: (A) LONDON 13094 (NOTAL); (B) VALLETTA 2205

1. DEPT APPRECIATES VIEWS OF EMBASSY VALLETTA (REF B) AND NATURALLY DOES NOT WANT TO SEE CURRENT UK-GOM SITUATION EXACERBATED BY PROPOSED ESSO ACTION. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A "GOOD" TIME FOR A CONFRONTATION WITH MINTOFF, AND CONSIDERING DURATION OF ESSO'S PROBLEMS IN MALTA AND APPARENT LACK OF GOM RESPONSIVENESS TO EARLIER EFFORTS BY BOTH COMPANY AND EMBASSY, WE DO NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE WE SHOULD REQUEST DELAY.

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2. LONDON SHOULD, THEREFORE, EXPRESS TO ESSO DEPT'S APPRECIATION FOR NOTIFICATION; BRIEF COMPANY ON CURRENT UK-GOM SITUATION AND SUGGEST THAT FROM BOTH COMPANY'S AND USG STANDPOINT CLIMATE MIGHT NOT BE MOST AUSPICIOUS FOR APPROACH TO GOM; STRESS, HOWEVER, THAT WE DO NOT BELIEVE POLITICAL SITUATION, IN ITSELF, SERIOUS ENOUGH TO WARRANT DELAY IF ESSO DEEMS APPROACH TO MALTESE NECESSARY AT THIS TIME; NOTE CONTINUING INTEREST OF EMBASSY VALLETTA IN SITUATION AND STATE THAT WE WILL MAKE ANOTHER PITCH TO GOM IF BELIEVED HELPFUL.

3. FOR VALLETTA: YOU MAY ADVISE LOCAL ESSO REP OF FOREGOING. CASEY

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Message Attributes

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